

Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

Meeting Minutes

Whiteman Air Force Base

Building 3076 (Off Base at Golf Course)

101 Sprit Blvd.

Whiteman AFB, MO 65305.

October 1, 2009

MMPEC Members Present: Chairman Dalton Wright, Vice Chairman Representative Terry Witte, Senator Bill Stouffer, Representative David Day, Mr. Jeff Bloemker, Mr. Robert Welling, Mr. Kent Thomas.

MMPEC Advisory Members Present: Mrs. Rachel Wheeler, Whiteman AFB; Col. Dennis Sandbothe (Ret), Missouri National Guard.

Guests: Brigadier General Robert Wheeler, Whiteman Air Force Base; Dr. Kerwin Urhahn, Missouri State High School Activities Association; Mr. Don Ransom, DED; Mrs. Daina Dawkins, Whiteman AFB; Ms. Simone Dillingham, Warrensburg RVI; Ms. Anne Payne, Missouri Veterans Commission; Mr. Jim Elliot, Warrensburg Middle School; School; Ms. Laura Kennedy, Warrensburg Middle School; Ms. Jamie Albers, Whiteman School Liaison Officer; Ms. Sandi Williams, Whiteman AFB; Mr. David Snodgrass, U.S. Army; Joyce Connor, Ft. Leonard Wood; Mr. Trent Griffith, MMPEC Coordinator, DED; Ms. Marcy Mealy, DED.

Chairman Dalton Wright called to order the October 1, 2009 meeting of the MMPEC at 2:00 p.m., in the Whiteman Air Force Base Building 3076 (Off Base at the Golf Course). First on the agenda was the approval of the of the September 15, 2009 meeting minutes. The approval of the September 15, 2009 meeting minutes was tabled until they can be properly reconstructed by Mr. Griffith.

Guest Speaker

Chairman Wright welcomed the meeting's guest speaker, Dr. Kerwin Urhahn of the Missouri State High School Activities Association. Chairman Wright, Mr. Welling and Ms. Wheeler previously met with Dr. Urhahn in June to discuss a request made by "mission essential" personnel at Whiteman AFB in regard to their son playing varsity sports at a high school out of district from the family's residency. That waiver was granted by the member schools of MSHSAA and the MMPEC then requested that Dr. Urhahn present to the Commission on the mission and authority of MSHSAA.

Dr. Urhahn explained that MSHSAA has 578 member high schools, grades 7-12, and 890 member high schools, grades 9-12. MSHSAA was formed in February of 1926 to establish uniform eligibility rules. Currently there are 26 sports and activities sanctioned by MSHSAA with over 300,000 eligible students on rosters. Dr. Urhahn said that there are area meetings throughout the state in January where he provides information on rule changes. In April there is an online ballot for the voting delegates from each member school. The Principal and Superintendent serve as voting delegates. There is a mandatory rules meeting in the fall to cover changes to by-laws and the constitution and the rule takes effect the following July 1.

Dr. Urhahn presented MSHSAA's transfer rules: (Students that transfer schools are ineligible until they meet on the 10 exceptions.)

1. Standard Transfer
2. Transfer Promotion
3. Transfer from a non-member school
4. Transfer from an unaccredited public school
5. Special Transfer
 - a. Ordered by School Board
 - b. Reorganization of District
 - c. School Closures
6. Boarding School
7. Transfer approval (one time free transfer for foreign exchange student)
8. Hardship
9. Waiver
10. Foreign exchange student.
 - a. In-band CSIET Program
 - b. International Student not CSIET

Dr. Urhahn explained that in 2007– 2008 there were 10,085 transfers, of that 726 were hardship cases. In 2008-2009 there were 11,404 transfers and of that 833 were hardship cases. To date in 2009-2010 there have been 7,359 transfers of that, 446 hardship cases.

Dr. Urhahn said that if the MMPEC proposed and exception for high school age children of “mission essential” military personnel and the MSHSAA members accepted the exception then it would be #11.

Dr. Urhahn explained the appeals process as being first an initial MSHSAA office review which second is brought before the Appeals Committee and then the third and final step where it is presented to the Board of Directors.

Dr. Urhahn asked for the MMPEC to submit in writing the request for an exception for high school age children of “mission essential” military personnel so that he can present the request to the member schools during the month of January.

The MMPEC established an Educational subcommittee to meet with school district administrators located in the vicinity of Missouri military installations. Mr. Welling and Mr. Bloemker were assigned to the subcommittee. Discussion will focus on state funding and federal impact aid.

Legislative Update

Rep. Day said that the House Veterans Committee has started talking about retired military issues with MAVO. Senator Stouffer said that he talked to DED Interim Director Katie Steele Danner and she is receptive to providing assistance to the MMPEC as the Commission addresses the issue of the State's unpaid dues to the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children. Vice Chair Representative Terry Witte said that he had met with OA Budget Director Linda Luebbering on September 16 to discuss if the dues could be paid from a FY10 supplemental budget line item. Senator Stouffer said that this shouldn't be done without discussion with the legislature. Rep. Day said that it would be good to receive a letter of intent or support from the Governor's office regarding the Interstate Compact and the establishment of the State Council. Vice Chair Representative Witte said he would ask for such a letter. Mr. Welling said that the state coordination for the Interstate Compact is not in compliance with the rules of the compact and gave the specifics for membership. It was decided that Vice Chair Representative Witte and Representative Day would schedule a meeting with Mary

Nelson, Boards and Commissions Director, Office of the Governor. Senator Stouffer made the motion for the MMPEC to recommend to Ms. Mary Nelson that the MMPEC be used as an existing commission in completing the membership requirements for the State Council for the Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunities for Military Children. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. This will be stated to Ms. Nelson.

MMPEC Liaison Updates

National Guard - Col. Dennis Sandbothe (Ret.) said that they are working toward insuring the funding match is in place for the Youth Challenge Program. General Danner is actively working to bring more Air National Guard structure to Missouri in the Springfield area. Several options are currently being reviewed.

Whiteman AFB – Ms. Wheeler said the base is ready for big IEG inspection. Whiteman is expecting a large deployment before Christmas.

Missouri Veterans Commission Report – Larry Kay: Plans for Missouri Veterans Commission, short term and long term (Left brochure).

Fort Leonard Wood –Joyce Conner said that MCA Construction is going great. There's a new MP unit being added to Fort Leonard Wood.

The next meeting was set for October 14, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Jefferson City, MO.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.